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2020-10-02 Minutes of the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate

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Approved Minutes
Executive Committee of the Academic Senate
October 2, 2020
8:45 am – 10:15 am
Zoom meeting

Present: Joanna Abdallah, Paul Benson, Connie Bowman, James Brill, Sam Dorf, Deo Eustace, Mark Jacobs, Carissa Krane, Leslie Picca, Fran Rice, Andrea Seielstad

Guests: Sean Falkowski (Faculty Board representative), Mary Ellen Dillon (FT-NTT faculty senator),

Excused: Jason Pierce

Opening

- Opening prayer / meditation – Paul Benson
- Approval of minutes from 09/25/2020 ECAS meeting. Approved.

Announcements

- ECAS Prayer Sign Up sheet is in the ECAS folder.
- Update on FAC, FT-NTT faculty rep. Both Michael Cox and Marguerite Wallace have respectfully declined to serve. The UNRC will solicit for nominations.

New Business

- Consultation on Spring 2021 Calendar--Paul Benson.
 - The Academics Working Group of the Path Forward presented suggested changes for the Spring calendar. The proposed changes are to help address difficulties in getting books. Fall semester, students had a difficult time retrieving books for classes. Many students waited to order books or ordered late which caused delays in accessing course materials. Suggestions to the proposed calendar were offered and will be shared with the Academics Working Group.
- Debrief 09.25.2020 Senate Meeting—It was discovered that the statement read from the campus unity committee was actually from a committee of one and not from SGA as a whole. There are plans to announce this at the next senate meeting.
 - Next steps for Senate Composition (feedback captured and available in ECAS folder). Concerns were expressed about adding work to FAC by reviewing the feedback now. It was agreed FAC will complete its charge to review revisions and feedback on the UPT by January 2021. FAC will then review senate composition feedback and be prepared to discuss beginning January 2021.
 - Next steps for Anti-Racism Resolution, especially action steps:
 - embraces and commits itself to the intentional pursuit of the development of policies in support of these aims, and encourages faculty, students, staff to the work toward becoming an anti-racist university, with an inclusive definition of racial justice.
 - is committed to securing and communicating updates from accountability partners on the progress toward becoming an anti-racist university.

- encourages units and departments to assess their pedagogies, policies and practices to ensure they comply with these principles and to take corrective action where inequities are identified.

In support of securing and communicating updates from accountability partners on the progress toward becoming an anti-racist university it was suggested Larry Burnley be invited to provide clarity around the relationship between the university DEI strategic plan and the anti-racist steps and to come with specific concrete examples to share.

- October Senate Agenda items. Suggestion to have someone from LTC offer strategies on how to manage workload, faculty burnout, coping mechanisms, and list resources they have available to faculty and students. Final agenda will be approved at ECAS on October 9.
 - Updates from BOT meeting (Eric Spina & Mary Boosalis)
 - Other Considerations: Diversity updates in CAP: New DSJ Coordinator (Youssef Farhat); Diversity Fellows Summer 2019 & Diversity ILG (Castel Sweet & Tom Morgan); CAP updates (Michelle Pautz)

Old Business

Charges

Task	Assigned to	Work Due	Update
Univ P&T	FAC (8/28/20)	Jan.2021	
Transfer Policy	APC (8/28/20)	Nov 2020	
Transfer Policy/Military	APC (8/28/20)	Sept 2020	
Academic Dishonesty	SAPC (9/11/20)	mid-Oct 2020	
SET & bias	SAPC (9/11/20)	Feb 2021	

Priorities for Senate 2020-21

1. Pandemic/Budgetary Crisis & Shared Governance
2. Steps to Becoming an Anti-Racist University (focus on step #2 curricular/co-curricular)
3. *Senate Composition, especially increasing FT-NTT faculty reps
4. *University P&T policy (DOC 2006-10), plus evaluation of faculty--charged to FAC
5. SET & Mitigating Bias--charged to SAPC

* Requires a vote of Senate + all tenure-line faculty

Adjourned: 10:17

Respectfully submitted, Fran Rice